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To: Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, Suite 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

From: Sam M. Hains, Chief
Bay City Fire Department

Subject: Opposition to FCC docket 92-235

FCC MAIL ROOM

Prior to formally adopting rules proposed in docket 92-235, I believe that the FCC should take a serious look at the consequences that such adoption would have on the nation's public safety agencies.

Please consider the following:

- 1) Public Safety communications must have priority over the profit motive of private industry. This has been established by statute as well as court decision.

It appears that the FCC, in seriously considering adoption of docket 92-235, is blatantly ignoring this priority and would have the nation's public safety agencies expend collectively billions of local tax dollars to replace emergency communications systems that have taken years to develop and work very well for the local agencies.

- 2) The communications equipment which would be required by docket 92-235 is not as yet commercially available.

We know not what the final cost of compliance will be but I believe that, if required by mandate, such equipment will come with a substantial price tag when it does become available.

- 3) The proposed rules may have devastating effects on public safety and the safety of emergency responders.

Communications systems meeting the proposed requirements would not, in all likelihood, be as effective as present systems in providing quality voice transmission during emergency operations. This would adversely affect the safety of the public as well as the safety of emergency responders. Clear and understandable communications are essential to safe operations.

In all likelihood, cuts in other areas of public safety would have to be made by each agency in order to fund new communications systems.

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In closing, I am opposed to the formal adoption of FCC docket 92-235. I share the concerns of the Associated Public-Safety Communications Officers, Inc. (APCO) and I endorse their positions with regard to FCC docket 92-235.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam M. Hains", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sam M. Hains
Chief,
Bay City Fire Department